

ICCS OFFERS OPEN ACCESS WEB RESOURCES REFERENCE TOOL

The International Council for Canadian Studies (ICCS) has produced a new reference tool that compiles over 60 websites offering free access to scholarly research. This tool is in the form of a document available from its website and provides access to a number of resources designed to facilitate research on numerous aspects of Canada, to disseminate the impressive number of researches, studies and other types of learned documents on Canada available online, and to promote knowledge on Canada, nationally and abroad.

This new tool aims to address an frequently stated observation regarding the difficulty for the international Canadianists to have readily access to resources, and more specifically it addresses Recommendation 9 of the General Recommendations of the Report of the Forum on Canadian Studies:

- Render electronic resources more easily available, for example by creating an ICCS webpage with links to free relevant databases and resources, or offering a pay-per-view electronic library such as the Canadian Electronic Library.

The document will also serve as the first step in creating a virtual space on the ICCS website dedicated to open access web resources for Canadianists around the world.

The number of resources offered is impressive. Organizations such as Érudit offering free online access to full texts of books, Masters and Doctoral thesis and articles of over 70 Canadian learned journals, along with papers given at conferences are available with this tool. Other sites serve as intermediaries between publishing houses and Canadian libraries. Some of the featured organizations, such as ICCS and Library and Archives Canada, offer online bibliographies that facilitate research. Some websites such as the Canada Atlantic Portal provide resources on a specific region of Canada. Other websites offer a limited access to learned journals or specialize in providing access to databases, reference materials, on line discussion groups, book critics or resources designed for teachers. Some sites are in English only, others in French and others are bilingual. Almost all of the sites can be consulted free of charge (there are a couple of exceptions, where free access is partial).

To access this new reference tool, [click here](#). The document is posted in ICCS [Newsroom](#) under Reports and Summaries.